

Serial No. 09/483,816

A. Partyka 17

Claims**No claim is amended in this Amendment:**

1 1. (previously presented) A network comprising:
2 at least three nodes, and
3 each node comprising a transmitter for transmitting, to other nodes, timing for a plurality of
4 transmission opportunities of said node and for transmitting at at least one of said transmission
5 opportunities to initiate data transmission to another node, and
6 each of at least two of said nodes comprising logic for holding data indicative of an expected time
7 and an expected frequency of at least one future transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes,
8 and
9 each of said at least two of said nodes comprising a receiver for receiving transmissions at
10 transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality of nodes.

1 2. (original) The network of claim 1 wherein:
2 said transmission opportunities are at time intervals and frequencies that are determined
3 according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1 3. (original) The network of claim 1 wherein:
2 said transmitter is for transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and
3 frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1 4. (original) A method of operating a network comprising:
2 transmitting, from each node, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities of said node,
3 and transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data transmission to another
4 node, and
5 holding, each of at least two of said nodes, data indicative of an expected time and an expected
6 frequency of at least one future transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and
7 receiving, at each of said at least two of said nodes, transmissions at transmission opportunities of
8 at least one of said plurality of nodes.

1 5. (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
2 determining time intervals and frequencies of said transmission opportunities, at each said node,
3 according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1 6. (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
2 transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and frequencies that are
3 determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

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- 1 7. (original) A network node comprising:
2 a transmitter for transmitting, to other nodes, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities
3 of said node and for transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data
4 transmission to another node, and
5 logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one
6 future transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and
7 a receiver for receiving transmissions at transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality
8 of nodes.
- 1 8. (original) The node of claim 7 wherein:
2 said transmission opportunities are at time intervals and frequencies that are determined
3 according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.
- 1 9. (original) The node of claim 7 wherein:
2 said transmitter is for transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and
3 frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.
- 1 10. (original) A method of operating a network node comprising:
2 transmitting, to other nodes, timing for a plurality of transmission opportunities of said node, and
3 transmitting at at least one of said transmission opportunities to initiate data transmission to another node,
4 and
5 holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one future
6 transmission opportunity of each of a plurality of nodes, and
7 receiving transmissions at transmission opportunities of at least one of said plurality of nodes.
- 1 11. (original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:
2 determining time intervals and frequencies of said transmission opportunities, at said node,
3 according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.
- 1 12. (original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:
2 transmitting said timing by transmitting beacons at time intervals and frequencies that are
3 determined according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.
- 1 13. (original) A network comprising:
2 at least three nodes, and
3 each node comprising a transmitter for transmitting data according to timing for transmissions,
4 wherein said node is capable of producing said timing for transmissions in the absence of any information
5 of other nodes timing, and

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6 each of at least two of said nodes comprising a receiver for receiving transmissions from each of
7 a plurality of said nodes, and said receiver comprising a tracking mechanism for tracking
8 contemporaneously timing for transmissions of each of a plurality of said nodes.

1 14. (original) The network of claim 13 wherein:

2 said tracking mechanism comprises logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an
3 expected frequency of at least one future beacon transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.

1 15 (original) The network of claim 13 wherein:

2 said transmitter is for transmitting said timing for transmissions by transmitting beacons at time
3 intervals and frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is unique for each
4 said node.

1 16. (original) The network of claim 13 wherein:

2 said transmitter is for transmitting said data at time intervals and frequencies that are determined
3 according to at least one sequence that is unique for each said node.

1 17. (original) A method of operating a network comprising:

2 producing, at each node, timing for transmissions that is independent of other nodes' timings for
3 transmissions, and transmitting data according to said timing, and
4 tracking, at said each node, contemporaneously timing for transmission of a plurality of nodes,
5 and

6 receiving transmissions, at said each node, from at least one of said plurality of nodes in
7 accordance with said tracking.

1 18. (original) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

2 holding, at said each node, data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at
3 least one future transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.

1 19 (original) A network node comprising:

2 a transmitter for transmitting data according to timing for transmissions, wherein said node is
3 capable of producing said timing for transmissions in the absence of any information of other nodes'
4 timing, and

5 a receiver for receiving transmissions from each of a plurality of nodes, and said receiver
6 comprising a tracking mechanism for tracking contemporaneously timing for transmissions of each of a
7 plurality of nodes.

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1 **20. (original) The node of claim 19 wherein:**2 said tracking mechanism comprises logic for holding data indicative of an expected time and an
3 expected frequency of at least one future beacon transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.1 **21. (original) The node of claim 19 wherein:**2 said transmitter is for transmitting said timing for transmissions by transmitting beacons at time
3 intervals and frequencies that are determined according to at least one sequence that is individual for said
4 node.1 **22. (original) The node of claim 19 wherein:**2 said transmitter is for transmitting said data at time intervals and frequencies that are determined
3 according to at least one sequence that is individual for said node.1 **23. (previously presented) A method of operating a network node comprising:**2 producing timing for transmissions that is independent of other nodes' timings for transmissions,
3 and transmitting data according to said timing, and

4 tracking contemporaneously timing for transmission of each of a plurality of nodes, and

5 receiving transmissions from at least one of said plurality of nodes in accordance with said
6 tracking.1 **24. (original) The method of claim 23 further comprising:**2 holding data indicative of an expected time and an expected frequency of at least one future
3 transmission from each of a plurality of nodes.